

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 159681
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 NSC-05
CIAE-00 DODE-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 SIG-01 EB-07 AID-05
OMB-01 SP-02 XMB-02 STR-04 EPG-02 /066 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:DSMITH:JWM
APPROVED BY AF:DBBOLEN
AF/EPS:RDUNCAN
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
USDOC, TREASURY, NSC, CIA, DOD, FEA, AGRICULTURE
-----122775 092238Z /64

R 090135Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BANJUL
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
AMEMBASSY BISSAU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 159681
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 159681

USEEC FOR EC BRUSSELS, USMTN FOR MTN GENEVA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, EGEN, XY, US

SUBJECT: ECOWAS

REF: STATE 134253

1. AF/W STUDY OF ECOWAS WILL FOCUS ON THE ORGANIZATION'S FUTURE PROSPECTS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS FOR THE UNITED STATES. PROBLEMS FACING ECOWAS FALL INTO TWO MAJOR CATEGORIES:

A. DOES THE POLITICAL WILL AND COMMITMENT REQUIRED TO MAKE ECOWAS SUCCEED EXIST AMONG ITS MEMBERSHIP?

B. ASSUMING THE POLITICAL WILL EXISTS, CAN ECOWAS BECOME A VIABLE ENTITY GIVEN THE STRUCTURAL AND ECONOMIC CONSTRAINTS ON COOPERATION?

2. YOUR RESPONSES TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (RELEVANT TO YOUR COUNTRY) ARE ESSENTIAL TO FORMING A COMPREHENSIVE PICTURE OF ECOWAS'S POTENTIAL.

A. WILL THE NECESSARY TIME AND RESOURCES BE DIVERTED BY YOUR COUNTRY FROM DOMESTIC PROBLEMS TO MAKE ECOWAS'S GOALS ATTAINABLE?

B. WILL YOUR COUNTRY'S COMMITMENT TO SMALLER REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (E.G. THE CEAO) CONFLICT WITH ECOWAS? LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 159681

C. WILL THE LACK OF AN EFFICIENT PAYMENT MECHANISM AND COMMON CURRENCY DETER OR DELAY ECOWAS'S ABILITY TO MEET ITS GOALS ON TIME? DO YOU SEE A FUTURE ROLE FOR THE WEST AFRICAN CLEARING HOUSE (WACH) HERE?

D. HOW MUST TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION LINKS BETWEEN YOUR COUNTRY AND OTHER MEMBERS BE IMPROVED TO ALLOW INTRA-ECOWAS TRADE TO INCREASE?

E. IS YOUR COUNTRY'S TRADE STRUCTURE COMPLEMENTARY OR COMPETITIVE WITH THE OTHER MEMBERS?

F. WHAT EFFECT WILL THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND/OR INDUSTRY IN YOUR COUNTRY IN THE NEXT DECADE HAVE ON THIS COMPLEMENTARITY OR COMPETITIVENESS? CAN BOTH EXISTING TRADE STRUCTURES AND/OR PLANNED TRENDS BE MODIFIED TO PROMOTE PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESS OF ECOWAS?

G. WILL YOUR COUNTRY BE CAPABLE OF MEETING ITS FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS TO ECOWAS?

H. WHAT PERCENTAGE OF YOUR COUNTRY'S GOVERNMENT REVENUE IS DERIVED FROM CUSTOMS DUTIES AND OTHER TRADE-RELATED TAXES?

I. WITH REFERENCE TO THE ABOVE QUESTION, DOES IT SEEM FEASIBLE THAT THE FUND (FOR COOPERATION, COMPENSATION AND DEVELOPMENT) OF ECOWAS WILL BE CAPABLE OF ADEQUATELY COMPENSATING FOR THE LOSS OF CUSTOMS REVENUE AND CORRECTING UNBALANCED DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION?

J. WHAT IS YOUR ESTIMATION OF THE ABILITY OF ECOWAS TO PROGRESS ON SCHEDULE FROM A REMOVAL OF ALL INTRA-ECOWAS CUSTOMS DUTIES (BY 1981), TO A FREE TRADE AREA (BY 1986), AND FINALLY TO A CUSTOMS UNION (BY 1991).
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 159681

K. WILL ECOWAS TEND TO PROMOTE INCREASED U.S. TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN THE REGION?

L. DO YOU SEE THE FUND FOR COOPERATION, COMPENSATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ECOWAS AS A POTENTIAL VEHICLE FOR AID TO WEST AFRICAN REGION?

3. AF/W WOULD APPRECIATE RESPONSES BY JULY 29. WE WOULD WELCOME ANY OTHER OBSERVATIONS ON ISSUES NOT ADDRESSED ABOVE AND COMMENTS ON THE VIABILITY OF ECOWAS GOALS AND HOST GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT TO THE ORGANIZATION. VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, STUDIES, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE159681
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DSMITH:JWM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770245-0302
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770774/aaaacmky.tel
Line Count: 148
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e043f96d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 134253
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1912499
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECOWAS
TAGS: ECIN, EGEN, XY, US, ECOWAS
To: ABIDJAN ACCRA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e043f96d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009